States	Customer population with the distributors of public sector LPG marketing companies		State-wise waiting list with distributors of public sector LPG marketing companies	
	as on 1.4.95	as on 1.4.93	as on 1.4.94	as on 1.4.95
Union Territories				
Andaman & Nicobar	0.11	0.07	0.08	0.06
Chandigarh	1.55	0.71	0.75	0.73
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.05	0.02	0.02	0.02
Delhi	15.77	6.46	6.97	7.01
Daman & Diu	0.09	0.03	0.03	0.04
Lakshadweep	0.01	—	—	—
Pondicherry	0.37	0.25	0.29	0.37

Use of Hindi by Indian Delegations visited Abroad

1186. SHRI VISHNU KANT SHASTRI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian delegations visited foreign countries officially during the last one year together with the number of members in each delegation;

(b) what is the number of the members who have delivered their speeches in foreign countries in English and Hindi respectively; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to encourage the members of the delegation to make optimum use of Hindi in foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Losses due to Dacoities and Thefts

1187. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what were the losses due to dacoities and thefts in Railways Zone-wise during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 till 30.6.95;

(b) what is the total claim given by Railways for losses due to thefts and dacoities; and

(c) the steps taken by Railways to prevent thefts and dacoities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (c) The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime in the trains is the responsibility of Government Railway Police (G.R.P.), which functions under the control of the respective State Governments/U.T. Administrations. Information pertaining to zone-wise losses suffered by the passengers on account of dacoities/thefts and claims thereof is not maintained by the Central Government.

Extra Departmental and Casual Employees working in Post and Telegraph Offices in Orissa

1188. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Extra-departmental Employees, casual labours working in

different Post and Telegraph Offices in Orissa;

(b) how many of these have been working for more than ten years;

(c) whether Government have taken decision to give pension to all the Extra-Departmental Employees/casual labour on their retirement on completion of 10 years of service;

(d) if not, what are the prescribed rules; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) 1. **DEPTT. OF POST:** The number of Extra Departmental Employees and Casual Labourers is 18.572 and 14 respectively.

(b) The number of ED Employees and Casual Labourers working for more than ten years is 14,395 and 10 respectively.

(c) to (e) About payment of pension, the position is as under:—

A. Extra Departmental Employees in the Department of Posts:

No Sir. ED Agents are not entitled to pension.

B. Casual Labours in the Department of Post:

Casual Labours are also not entitled to pension. However, such Casual Labours as are granted 'temporary status' and then later get regularized as Group 'D' officials are, on retirement, entitled to have 50% of their services rendered in 'temporary status' counted for the purpose of retirement benefits including pension.

2. DEPTT. OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

(d) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Modernisation of Post Offices

1189. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to modernise 500 Post Offices of country during the current year;

(b) if so, details thereof with names of Post Offices State and Union Territory-wise to be covered for modernisation;

(c) whether modernisation of Post Offices has been done in the past;

(d) if so, names of such Post Offices State and Union Territory-wise with amount involved;

(e) whether modernisation of Post Offices has benefited the people in any way; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The Department of Post has set a target to modernise 500 selected important post offices in the country during 1995-96 of which initially only 300 are proposed to be fully modernised keeping in view the availability of resources.

(b) Number of post offices of different sizes earmarked for each Circle as targets are placed at statement-I (See below). Identification of the post offices to be modernised is underway in the respective Circle.

(c) This programme was initiated in 1994-95 during which period 115 post offices were modernised all over the country.

(d) The names of post offices modernised during 1994-95 are given in statement 'A'. Estimated expenditure circle-wise for modernisation during the last year is given in statement-B (See below).